

## TROY HERALD.

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## OUR SPANISH RELATIONS.

For a few days subsequent to the first excitement created by the news of the capture of the *Virginius* and the massacre of a large number of its passengers and the crew, a lull was occasioned by the fair promises of the Spanish authorities at Madrid; but dispatches of the 20th were of a more belligerent character, and war with Spain assumed a very serious aspect. Intelligence of that date received from Madrid says the United States legation there were attacked by a mob of the Spanish populace on the 19th, and Minister Siskies threatened with violence. The authorities, however, acted promptly, and succeeded in dispersing the crowd.

The feeling among the masses is very bitter towards this country, and the opinion prevails that if President Castelar is bold enough to yield full reclamation to the United States for the murder of the *Virginius*' crew and the gross insult to our flag, his government will be overthrown by the opponents of his administration; and this power behind the throne will cause Castelar to move cautiously in the matter, and probably deter him altogether from making any amends.

Another ugly rumor of same date was dispatched from the Spanish seat of government, which, if true—and at this writing we have seen no contradiction thereof—appears in the light of a studied insult to our foreign legation and to our people for their demands for a stay in the execution at Santiago. On the arrival of the news of the capture of the *Virginius* and the massacre, Minister Siskies sent a note to Castelar's cabinet requesting a stay, whereupon his secretary answered by questioning the accuracy of the information. Our minister then, in the name of the United States, addressed the secretary a formal protest, demanding that Spain should force obedience in Cuba, and insisting on the rights of Americans to trial under the treaty of 1796. The Spanish Secretary ignored the protest, saying that the matter was a municipal affair between Cuba and the *Virginius* pirates; that Spain could not tolerate American interference. Minister Siskies persisted in the demand, and the Spanish secretary a second time haughtily declined to allow him to discuss the municipal affairs of Cuba.

As little as war may be desired, it is unbecoming the dignity of our government to pocket such insults, and we do not believe it will. Apology for this indignity, as well as a demand for the Cuban blood-hounds, should occupy a conspicuous place in the horrible drama now being enacted.

The Washington *Republican*, the administration organ, however, takes a very cheerful view of the situation, and says that the government has reason to congratulate itself upon the aspect of the present negotiation with Spain; that upon the demand of our government, the Spanish authorities transmitted an order to the Havana officials to suspend further executions until a more satisfactory investigation could be had, and that the effect of this order was to prevent additional butcheries after it had been received by Burriel, butcher in chief and governor of Cuba. The *Republican* augurs from this submission to the Madrid government that an honorable and satisfactory settlement of the difficulties will be effected. It is certainly to be wished that such a result may be consummated, for war should always be the last resort of nations in adjusting their differences; but no half-way settlement should be accepted by our government—we want some assurance that there will be no more like indignities to our flag and murder of our citizens without a proper trial. And nothing short of the turning of Burriel and his co-murderers over to this government, to be dealt with according to the law bearing upon such grievances, should be accepted. It would probably be a wholesome lesson to the half civilized Cuban subjects of Spain.

## CHANGES ON CLUMS, ORCER HORN.

Now that the busy season of the farmers is over, they have ample time to accomplish a most important work. We refer to their active organization into either clubs or granges. We have, from the first, advocated this step on the part of the farmers of Lincoln county, for the reason that our prosperity depended upon theirs. The connexion is too plain to be mistaken. Stimulate the agricultural industries and the effect will at once be felt in every other branch. The reverse of the proposition is not less true.

An oft-quoted maxim is that agriculture is the basis of all our prosperity. Its repetition loses nothing of its force. Let the plow lie idle in the furrow, and every wheel, spindle and furnace of manufactures would stop; every ship of commerce rot in the dock; all interchange of commodities cease, and every avenue of trade dry up. While the agriculturist uses and consumes the larger portion of manufactured articles, he alone produces the crude materials, the handling of which keeps in motion nearly every other industry of the world.

How is this most important industry fostered in comparison to others? According to the last census there were in the United States nearly six millions of persons engaged in agriculture, with a capital of more than eleven millions of dollars; while every branch of manufactures gave work to only a little more than two millions of persons and employed only two thousand millions of dollars capital. Now what are the comparative values of productions? The value of products of agricultural labor for the year mentioned in the census, including every item, such as improvements, increase of stock, and the like, fell a little short of two thousand five hundred millions of dollars, while that of the products of manufactures nearly doubled that sum, reaching a fraction less than four thousand, five hundred millions of dollars. In other words every person engaged in agriculture carries a capital of nearly two thousand dollars while he earns in gross only four hundred dollars; at the same time, each person employed in manufactures, and representing a capital of twelve hundred dollars, produces values to the amount of more than two thousand dollars. Another suggestive fact is revealed by the census. Of this sum earned by each operative, there is paid only the average amount of three hundred and seventy-five dollars for his year's labor, leaving the remainder to the capitalists. Now let the farmer compare these figures with the relative amounts he pays his farm hand, and puts into his own pocket at the end of the year. And yet which class receives the fostering care of the government?

We have not space to pursue this subject into further detail, nor is it necessary that we should. The above figures embody sufficient facts to elicit the most earnest consideration on the part of our intelligent farmers. It is not desirable that one branch of the industries of the country be arrayed against the other. In advocating the interests of the farming community, because our people are mainly farmers, we do not seek to impair those of the capitalist, the manufacturer, or the railroad king. Let them be protected, to the fullest extent necessary in the peaceful exercise of their vocations. But we do ask that while so much of the fostering encouragement of the government is showered upon these classes, a little of it be extended to the agricultural element, which is, as the official figures of the census prove, so poorly rewarded for its labor.

The experience of our government has proved that every industrial element must advocate its own interests and demand justice for itself. No legislative halls, be they those of the national congress, or of the state assemblies, are free from armies of lobbyists, actively working for some material advantage that is more than worth the effort. Among those will be found representatives of every industrial element save that of agriculture. That this last has no need of legislation, no one can impartially survey the whole field and assert. The difficulty is, and has been, as we have all along contended, that the

farmers possessed no organization. The needed legislation, state and national, required by the farming classes as an act of simple justice, cannot be obtained without this organization.

There has been a fear with many of our farmers, that this movement would drag them into entangling political alliances. The history of the recent elections has effectually dispelled that fear. The history of the political events of the last few months has demonstrated another fact. The influence of the farmers' movement upon the course and platforms of both of the contending parties is unmistakably felt, and will soon be irresistible. The farmers have their interests in their own hands. If they fail to make them secure, they alone will be to blame.

A Washington dispatch of the 21st says: Members of the cabinet this morning seem to be very serious in their demeanor, and there seems to be a more extended discussion in all places as to the probabilities of war than has yet been noticed. At the same time, so far as has been made known, official advices from Spain have not varied in assertions of the honesty of the Castelar government to preserve friendly relations and to command calmness and dignity during the progress of the negotiations. The excitement of the populace in Madrid does not seem to be shared by the government there, as is evinced by the expressed opinion of the secretary of state here that there is exaggeration in the official reports and assertions of Mr. Siskies that the Spanish government is able and has suppressed hostile indications against the American legation of Madrid.

**FIRE AT TIPTON.**—On the 18th a fire broke out in a grocery store in Tipton Mo., and there being a high wind from the west, it rapidly spread, and in twenty minutes the entire business part of the town east of the origin of the fire was in flames, which were only checked at Redmond's brick building which is partly occupied by the postoffice. This loss is variously estimated at from \$25,000 to \$50,000, on which there is very little insurance. The Hazel house the best hotel in Central Missouri, was burned.

It is believed that President Grant is in full accord with the sentiments of the people in our Spanish imbroglio. In his conversation of the situation he is said to be calm and dispassionate, but at the same time earnest. Nothing will be done that will, even by implication, place the United States in the wrong before the world.

A gentleman living and doing business in New York, who arrived from Cuba on the 20th, declared that more than one hundred of the crew of the *Virginius* were executed, and that he saw the statement in the Spanish official reports in Havana.

A number of Union printers have thrown themselves out of employment in Pittsburgh, by a foolish strike, and now all the papers there are employing non-union compositors. When will journeymen learn that they are always the worsted parties in strikes?

A Washington telegram of the 21st inst. says dispatches from Madrid that morning report that a second attempt to assassinate Minister Siskies was made, and that he was wounded. The report is not credited, however, in official circles.

To-morrow, the 27th, has been set apart by the President, and also the Governor of this state, as a day of thanksgiving. Turkeys will be in demand, and there'll be more eating than praying.

Minister Siskies telegraphs that the Spanish government is equal to the emergency, but that a very strong feeling against the United States exists among the populace.

Members of congress are daily arriving at Washington preparatory to the coming session, which will convene early in December.

Senator Cameron thinks that if Spain refuses, or is unable to make proper reparation, congress will authorize a declaration of war.

The post office department has concluded a partial postal card arrangements with Germany, to go into effect the first of next month.

## LATEST CUBAN NEWS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The Spanish minister, Admiral Polo, has received a telegram from his government, a copy of which he delivered to Secretary Fish to-day, contradicting the report of hostile manifestations against the United States minister at Madrid. The telegram declares that Gen. Siskies is treated with consideration and respect, and that the intemperance of language of the monarchical press has been promptly silenced by the threat of immediate punishment. The minister of the colonies reports from Havana that the restoration of the embargoed property of American citizens is being diligently proceeded with.

The Spanish question is every where discussed with more calmness than last week, and the impression seems to prevail to a greater extent than heretofore that there will be no war between the United States and Spain. The tone of the Spanish ministry continues friendly and a disposition is manifested to act in all the matters in controversy in such a way as will preserve the peace between the two nations. The only important communication received to-day from Madrid, was by the Spanish minister, Admiral Polo, who communicated the contents to Secretary Fish. The Spanish government contradicts the report of any hostility manifested against the American minister, and says that Gen. Siskies is treated with consideration and respect; that some intemperance of language by the press was promptly silenced by a threat of immediate punishment.

MADRID, Evening, Nov. 22.—The reports that violence had been offered by the Madrid populace to Gen. Siskies are pronounced false. President Castelar had a long conference to-day with Mr. Lavard, the British minister. The result of this interview is favorable to a continuance of good relations. The idea of submitting the case of the *Virginius* to arbitration is much talked of. Should this course be agreed to, the German emperor is indicated as the probable arbitrator.

The New York *Herald's* Washington special says the Spanish objections to our demand are the following:

1. That the *Virginius* is not an American ship, as she was owned by Cubans, and registered in the name of Patterson, residing in New York.
2. That she has forfeited even this false registry by a subsequent sale to other parties.
3. That she had frequently sailed during the past two years under the flags of other countries.
4. That Gen. Ryan was not a citizen of the United States.
5. That the *Virginius*, at the time of the capture, was engaged in an unlawful expedition against a friendly power.

Here is how they do it in Montgomery county, if the *Standard* is to be believed:

Last week there were two couples married in the eastern part of this county. The brides were sisters, and the double wedding came about in this way: One of the sisters was engaged to two gentlemen, and being forbidden by the laws of the country to marry both of them, she left it with them to decide which should be her husband. Of course they "agreed to disagree," and the fair object of their "objections" was left in a delicate position. But her sister came forward and made a proposition. Said she—"I will marry Mr. A. if Mr. B. will agree to marry my sister, and in this way we can arrange this unpleasant matter to the satisfaction of all parties." The proposition was agreed to, and last week they were all married.

**SHARP PRACTICE.**—They have some queer people up in Italy, and some very unaccountably queer tricks do these queer people. The postmaster of New London, because of his own voluntary admission, was suspected of tampering with other people's letters. The Deputy U. S. Marshal that was, but now ain't, was very friendly to the P. M. In order to put the test, the deputy, it is asserted, actually summoned himself as grand jurymen in the U. S. Court at St. Louis. Marshal Newcomb, however, as soon as the would-be jurymen arrived in the city, sent him home again with a flea in his ear, at the same time transferring the office to Mayhall of the *Record*. We tell the story as 'twas told to us—"nothing extenuate or ought set down in malice." The late marshal's name is South or North, or some other point of the compass. It is proper to say no indictment was found against the P. M., and the late official had all his trouble and losses for naught.—*Louisiana Journal*.

The wedding-cake of a couple recently married weighed forty pounds, and was in the form of a three-story brown stone-front, with a sugar bride and bridegroom coming out of the front, and, like the real couple, too sweet to last.

An indictment is now pending before the Circuit court of Vernon county against the County court, for failing to publish a statement of the financial condition of the county at its May term, 1873.

## S. S. COX'S SPEECH.

"O! For a Fortnight of Gen. Jackson or Gov. Marcy."

[New York World's Report.]

What is the law of nations in regard to the seizure of the *Virginius*? Was there a breach of that law? And if a breach, what is the remedy for the outrage? One thing is beyond doubt. The vessel was duly authenticated by our government. Our flag, rightfully, was at its mast. It had our register and clearance. The seizure was on the high seas; not within the Spanish waters; not within the marine league. There was no recognition by Spain of belligerent rights to the insurgency in Cuba. Then what was the legal status of the vessel? Precisely your right to walk the city parks or streets coequal with that of any other person. No man, except by warrant of law, can obstruct your locomotion. The sea is a common. It is no ordinary progress of human thought which has made this the doctrine, not of America, but of the world. The fetters which stronger nations have imposed on commerce, and especially upon neutrals, have melted away under the civilizing influences of time. This country has been the chief agent in that amelioration of maritime relations. In the Trent case England under our doctrine reclaimed Siskies and Mason, and mitigated her own laws and admiralty decisions—her own attempts to make the sea a British highway. Upon what principle? Precisely on that laid down as early as 1786 by Franklin in his treaty with Prussia. Washington approved of it. Quincy Adams, following Grotius, elaborated it in 1823 to Colombia. Clay did the same to our Panama commissioners. Pierce and Marcy clinched it. Indeed, although we ended the war of 1812 without settling the question in favor of "sailors' rights" and a free sea, yet time had done what our army and navy had failed to do. The doctrine broadly stated, is that the vessel is the floating territory of the nation under whose flag it sails, and power can rightfully question or curtail its privileges. Every writer of authority holds to the American doctrine—that the rights of person, property and sovereignty are violated whenever, as is the case of the *Virginius*, a ship is overhauled, searched and seized. Gentlemen, I am told, high in authority, are waiting for the facts. We are advised by them not to go into hysterics over the flag until the facts are known. "How long, O Lord! how long!" are we to wait upon our diplomatic jugglery? The facts are patent. Newspaper enterprise has advertised and confirmed them. I propose to go into a few hysterics on the faith of the unquestionable truths. This question is one which concerns our government and flag. It does not go to the entrenchment of Cuba. That is incidental and consequential. It has in it none of the elements of sympathy. What, then, is the reparation? Is the loss of the vessel only to be made good? Are the lives of the butcher Burriel and his mob of volunteers to be demanded? Will that restore the life of Fry or of Ryan or the men who were sacred under our flag? Is not the remedy one which reaches further? Is our flag nothing? Nothing to commerce? Is it only a dish-rag? or an emblem of power? This inquiry is one that turns us back to the peculiar rule of Spain in Cuba. Nor is that Spanish rule peculiar to Cuba. The power of Spain has been for a century dying on our continent; but as she retreated from the hemisphere her skirts have been dragged and clothed with gore. The last massacre is but the horrible and damnable iteration of thousands of other butcheries. Since October, 1868—when the insurrection began—Spain has waged relentless war. In 1869 we had the record then of 107,000 Spanish troops sent out to conquer 1,500,000 people. There were infantry, cavalry, artillery, engineers, marines and volunteers; not to speak of fifty vessels-of-war with over 300 guns, and since then probably as many troops more. In such a warfare, so extensive and prolonged, one might have supposed that the laws of moderation and humanity, as laid down by Nattel for such cases, would obtain. But it has been a war without pity, without remorse. Rapacity and despotism, confiscation and butchery have added daily significance to the flag of Spain, which—red and yellow—is a river of blood between margins of gold! There are no prisoners in this war. Whether taken on sea or land—death, sudden and horrible; death with mutilation, death without even the consolations of religion to the condemned. These volunteer bands would not even allow the bishop sent from Spain to land at Havana, because he believed in giving the dying patriots the holy sacrament. Look at this book of blood which I hold in my hand—"Martyrs of Liberty in Cuba!" See the number of those executed from 1868 to 1871. There are 1,336, whose names and residences are given, and from the Spanish official record. Here are 2,650 names whose fate is unrecorded. Sixty-one dedicated in death to the garrot! The rest of the list are of the condemned and transported. Bloody annals flow much of terrible suffering do